THE

CRISIS.

NUMBER LXXIV. *To be continued Weekly,*

DURING THE PRESENT BLOODY CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

SATURDAY, June 15, 1776, [Price Two-pence Halfpenny.

SIR,

By inſerting ſpeedily if you can, this letter in the Criſis, you will oblige many of your conſtant readers.

To the right honourable JOHN Earl of Sandwich, firſt lord of the Admiralty, &c.———alias Twitcher.

" I will my lord, ſpeak of you, as you are.
" Nothing extenuate or ſet down ought in malice.

My Lord,

Have not the honor of being perſonally known by your lordſhip, tho' as an individual, I have been in your preſence at ſeveral of your naval viſitations: I ſhould almoſt diſpair of thus publickly addreſſing you, (for it is allowed by all, that your lordſhip has never bluſhed at any miſconduct you have been guilty of; ſince the crimſon hue o'er ſpread your countenance, when the Eſſay on Woman was read in the houſe of Peers, which gave ſuch a ſhock to your delicate ſenſe of things, and greatly offended

offended your lordſhips ears, whoſe chaſtity, and whoſe morals are ſo well known to the world, that no comment is required to make them conſpicuous) but as I hope there may be a moment, (and now is that criſis) when you may ſee your error; thro' the chanel of this paper I will urge ſome truths, which I ſincerly deſire both you, and the public will conſider.

Your religious principles my lord, I ſhall ſlightly touch upon; not that I conſider deiſm, and irreligion neceſſary in a ſtateſman, if I did your lordſhip ſhould be the only perſon I would recommend, not only to any other important truſt under this virtuous adminiſtration; but likewiſe to retain your preſent employ, as abſolutely neceſſary to ſupport your extravagance, by putting annually ſome thouſands into your pocket, to ſport with at Newmarket, at Arthur's, or Almacks, or where ever your lordſhips ſharping companions may aſſemble, to eaſe you of your ſpecie; or that you might with the greater facility penſion off ſome cloyſtered nymphs at Charlotte Haye's, and by that means eaſe the venerable matron of many corroding troubles.

You will, I hope, my lord, accept this traite of your religious conduct, as the dedication of my letter (not that I expect a place or penſion) but as a prelude to my conſidering your lordſhips conduct in another point of view.

Firſt then, as to your acting when conſulted on American affairs, (that now alarms the nation in general, and ſhakes the monarchs throne;) in reſpect to this caſe, it is well known that the will of lord Mansfield governs you as it does the lord Chancellor in every thing, and both your underſtandings are under as much ſubjection to him, as the iron is to the attractive impulſe of the magnet.

And now my lord, I will ſecondly conſider you as preciding at the head of the admiralty board.

It has been puffed off to the world by your venal writers; the great aſſiduity, care, and trouble that attends you, in your annual viſitations to the ſeveral dock-yards, this will appear as a proof of your dili-

gence

gence and under the head œconomy, to thoſe not acquainted with naval affairs; but upon due conſideration of the whole, it will be found the reverſe; your frequent viſits will be juſtly deemed unneceſſary, your knowledge gained thereby but ſuperficial, and all thoſe boaſted acts of œconomy futile, and void of any juſt foundation; for let me aſk thoſe writers this queſtion, where is the great hardſhip in a pleaſant ſeaſon of the year, for your lordſhip to take a voyage to the different ports? it is but very ſeldom you are in a ſtorm; but ſuppoſe it true, that Neptune is ſometimes diſpleaſed with your expedition, and cauſes the channel to be rough and diſagreeable for ſome hours; you may ſoon recover the fatigue, forgeting all the toil by relaxing over the fumes of a bottle, and then ſink into a ſweet ſleep folded in the arms of ſome enchanting Dulcinea; for we know your lordſhip always furniſhes your ſeraglio on the water as compleatly with ſea nymphs; as that on ſhore with ſilvan Deities. Where then can be your lordſhips great hardſhip on this watry element? as theſe hired garreteers would make us believe.

The œconomy practiſed by your lordſhip in this affair, can never with juſtice be vindicated, if conſidered impartially; for it will appear the travelling charges of yourſelf, and thoſe that conſequently attend you on theſe annual viſitations, amounts to more money than you can by any means ſave by this your perſonal attendance; the buſineſs would be carried on with the ſame care and attention, if your viſits were as ſeldom as the biſhops of the dioceſe; who once in three years comes to confirm his lambs and that is full as often as either of you are wanted.

I have thus conſidered your lordſhips fatigues, and alſo the œconomy practiſed in theſe viſitations; I will now conſider the knowledge acquired thereby. Let us view the wonderful diſcoveries of this ſagacious inquiſition, and the mighty effects it has produced.

In the beginning of the year, the ſhiprights of the royal yards were informed, that your lordſhip had appointed their work to be performed by contract, under a number of articles, this greatly alarmed them in reſpect to future evils; but the bait being gilded over with its being calculated for their good, they reſolved to make trial in obedience to your inſtructions. But now by practice having diſcovered

vered many inconveniences not provided for; the diſtant yards of Portſmouth and Plymouth, (where ſome of theſe evils were more immediately felt) on your lordſhips laſt viſitation, petitioned you to redreſs them, which being refuſed they abſented from their work.

I will give a ſpecimen of ſome of their complaints, and leave it to the conſideration of the impartial part of mankind.

They petitioned for an advance price on ſome articles, which are ſo diſproportioned, that by hard labour a man can hardly get his uſual pay. Secondly in working timber that proves defective, which in ſome large pieces requires hours, nay I might ſay days to accompliſh, and when nearly or quite finiſhed, proving bad, it is thrown away) they deſired to be paid ſome adequate allowance for ſuch loſs of time.

Thirdly, in rainy weather when they could not work, to be permitted to go home, and not be detained within thoſe walls when they could do nothing; for it is well known by proper judges, their work not being always portable, it cannot be removed under cover without a manifeſt hindrance.

Theſe were the heads complained of to your lordſhip, and which you was deſired to alter, if not, then ſet aſide taſk work, and let things proceed in their former channel. But you having imbibed the principles of arbitrary power, (like the king your maſter) will force an implicit obedience to things unjuſt.

This ſhews that you have gained but a ſuperficial knowledge of the true internal welfare of that body of men, to whoſe art, and to ſupport whom as uſeful to the community, it becomes you my lord to cheriſh; for without them, there will be no occaſion for one to fill that poſt which now your lordſhip enjoys.

Theſe are the happy effects of your late viſitation; where peace reſided, is now anarchy and uproar, and the crys of injured thouſands imprecating of vengeance on you! reflect my lord but a few

moments

moments on the preſent Criſis; it is not too late to remove the evil; take away the firſt cauſe of complaint, *viz. the taſk work*, and the conſequence will moſt aſſuredly be this; theſe uſeful men will unanimouſly ſtrive to entice each other, in the diligent diſcharge of their duty.

MARCUS.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Grantham, to his friend at Lincoln.

Dear Sir,

As I write to you I can write freely, that is, I can write my heart, though you muſt excuſe my blotting this paper with the blood of it.

I am ſorry to find you were ſo much indiſpoſed with your old complaint, as not to attend your family to the races; but perhaps at this time of life you may be beginning to think of running a better, if ſo, I pray God, ſir, to give me alſo his grace to think of ſetting out after you; for to tell you the plain truth of the matter, I am really weary and aſhamed of having run ſuch a one as I have; but to leave moraliſing and proceed to politics.

However ill or indiſpoſed you may have been, I doubt not but ſome late alarming occurrences have before now reached your ears, I mean in particular the late accounts from America, where the *ſtate Blood hounds* have been infernally employed in hunting after, running down, and then cutting the throats of ſome of the beſt and moſt valuable ſubjects of the Britiſh Empire.

This grand *Neronian* hunting match began to take good effect in the villages of *Lexington* and *Concord* on the 18th and 19th of April 1775 and on the 17th of June, when under the directions and by the expreſs orders of his majeſty's *executioner general* for the time being *Thomas Gage*, among other *murders* then and there committed by the PACK called out for that purpoſe, the Village of *Charles Town*, near *Boſton*,

was

was as that monſter of barbarity moſt *ſoldierly* expreſſes it, at CRITICAL moment ſet on fire, and burnt to aſhes, and where doubtleſs the cries, ſhrieks, and agonies of the poor roaſted inhabitants, men, women, and children muſt have been (till the fire and ſmoke had ſuffocated their power of utterance) beyond all expreſſion.

This ſingle exploit was enough to have immortaliſed the royal memory of a *Nero*---but infernal as it was; it has not been the laſt.

O! *George*, may there never be wanting a hand to revenge, any more than a pen to record the infamy of that execrable æra, when from the order and authority of a *Brunſwick*, thouſands of the moſt loyal, affectionate, and beſt deſerving of their poſterity, who raiſed thy anceſtors from the dunghill of a paltry electorate were (to pleaſe the reſentment of an abandoned and papiſtical junto, and for no other crime than that of defending their liberties, to which mankind had a right before tyrants exiſted, devoted to be the carnage of their countrymen.

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